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Director, Regional Medical Programs Service  
THROUGH: Acting Director, Division of Operations  
and Development, RMPS  
Deputy Director, Regional Medical Programs Service

March 2, 1972

Acting Chief, Western Operations Branch, DOD, RMPS

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington

On February 29, I met with Mr. Harley Dirks, staff member, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Mr. James Eason, Budget Analyst, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Comptroller, HCU; and Dr. J. Palmer Saunders, Associate Director for Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute. The meeting was held at the request of Mr. Dirks to discuss the involvement of NCI in the development of the FHCRC. Mr. Dirks explained that the representatives of the FHCRC had requested him to explore the possibility of transferring the authority for the \$5.0 million construction funds from RMPS to NCI.

Dr. Saunders expressed the willingness of NCI to fully cooperate in the development of the Center. I expressed the desire of RMPS to take whatever action would be most beneficial to the FHCRC.

In favor of the transfer is that the \$5.0 million application now under RMPS review is for only the initial stage of a long-range building program. For subsequent construction stages, the FHCRC plans to seek funding from NCI. Further, the current funding authority of RMPS for construction is limited and may not be available in the future. NCI, however, does have funding authority in the future. It seems reasonable, therefore, ~~that~~ since NCI will be involved heavily in the subsequent development of the Center, that NCI should be involved in the initial stage.

A major negative factor in a transfer is that it would not be in the best interest of the FHCRC at this time. NCI has a 25% matching requirement for construction grants, whereas RMPS only has a 10% matching requirement. Mr. Dirks believes that the FHCRC could not meet the NCI 25% matching requirement.

The idea of further exploring the transfer of the construction funds to NCI does not seem warranted. On the other hand, however, it was decided that close cooperation between NCI, RMPS, and the Federal Engineering Construction Authority (FECA) in the development of the initial planning

for the Center would be extremely important to the FHCRC, especially in the second and third stages of its building program. It was decided, therefore, that:

1. RMPS would accept the NCI construction guidelines in the development of the FHCRC, and that RMPS would advise FECA accordingly. Since NCI will be working with the Center in the future construction stages, it seems only logical that the FHCRC should not be faced with the problem of having to respond to two different sets of guidelines for one building program.

(Although FECA serves as technical reviewers in HEHSA for construction grants, FECA does not have its own construction guidelines. It is my understanding that FECA will follow those guidelines prescribed by the program responsible for administration of the grant.)

2. I accepted the offer of NCI to provide technical assistance to both FECA and the FHCRC in the development and review of the initial plans. The involvement of NCI at this time is strongly endorsed by Mr. Dirks and Mr. Eason.

(As a followup to our meeting, NCI has assigned Mr. Clarence Cuyler, an engineer, to assist us in whatever way he can. Mr. Cuyler will join me in Seattle for my March 8 meeting with representatives of the Washington/Alaska Regional Medical Program, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and FECA.)

3. Mr. Eason offered to inform FECA representatives at the National level of our desire to cooperate with the FECA representatives at the HEH regional level. (Mr. Eason visited with the FECA representatives at the National level immediately following our meeting.)
4. I agreed to inform both Mr. Dirks and Mr. Eason of the results of my visit to Seattle and to periodically keep them informed of the developments of the Center.

Richard L. Russell

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cc: Mr. Croft  
Mr. Gardell